REMARKS

The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 22-36 were previously pending in the application. Claims 25, 29, and 33-36 are cancelled, leaving claims 22-24, 26-28, and 30-32 for consideration.

Claims 22-24, 26-28, 30-32, and 34-35 are rejected as anticipated by SHIBATA 5,442,755 and claims 25, 29, and 33 are rejected further in view of AZEVEDO et al. 6,496,890.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested because the references do not teach or suggest that when a predetermined period of time has elapsed without being selected by an access manager, one of a plurality of processors requests others of a plurality of processors and the access manager to perform a predetermined reset operation for resetting themselves as recited in claim 22.

Specifically, each of independent claims 22, 26, and 30 are amended to include the subject matter of claims 25, 29, and 33, respectively. Claims 26 and 30 include similar limitations as noted above with respect to claim 22.

The position set forth in the Official Action is that SHIBATA does not specifically disclose that when a predetermined time period has elapsed without being selected by an access manager, one of a plurality of processors requests others of a

plurality of processors and the access manager to perform a predetermined reset operation for resetting themselves. AZEVEDO is offered for this feature.

However, the reset function of AZEVEDO is performed by a hang prevention device 90 that includes a timer 92 that allows recovery of the subsystem to a known state, such as a reset state as set forth on paragraph 7, lines 41-45 of AZEVEDO. As disclosed on column 8, lines 25-36 of AZEVEDO, the hang prevention device causes an interrupt to be issued on bus 18 to prevent further access to the master until the shared bus is reset.

Accordingly, the hang prevention device 90 sends out a signal to interrupt and to reset the processors. AZEVEDO does not teach or suggest that one of plurality of processors requests others of a plurality of processors and an access manager to perform a predetermined reset operation for resetting themselves as recited.

The above-noted feature is missing from each of the references, is absent from the combination, and thus would not have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art.

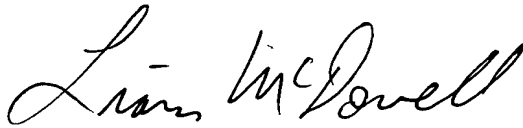Canceling claim 36 is believed to render moot the rejection over SHIBATA in view of MOGUL 6,704,798.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been

placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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